

Claims:

1. A cleaning device for a hair removing apparatus, said device comprising:  
a housing having a basin that receives an operator head of the hair removing apparatus;  
a tank storing a volume of a cleaning liquid;  
a pump supplying the cleaning liquid from said tank to said basin for cleaning the operator head of the apparatus;  
a drip pan being formed separately from said tank and being disposed underneath said basin to collect the liquid dripping from the basin, said drip pan being connected to said tank by way of a fluid intake channel for allowing the liquid to return from within said drip pan to said tank under the action of said pump,  
said drip pan being open to the bottom of said basin for collecting hairs or contaminants dislodged from the operator head,  
wherein  
said drip pan is provided with a filter for removing the hair and the contaminants from the liquid.

2. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein  
said drip pan is separated by said filter into a first chamber which is in direct communication with said basin and a second chamber having a connection port for direct connection with said fluid intake channel,  
said connection port having a flow cross area smaller than the surface area of

said filter.

3. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein  
said drip pan is separated by said filter into a first chamber which is in direct communication with said basin and a second chamber in direct communication with said fluid intake channel,  
said second chamber communicating with an air vent that is formed in said housing and is open to the atmosphere not through the filter for introducing an outside air,  
said tank being in the form of a hermetically sealed container which is selectively open to the atmosphere by way of an air valve,  
said device including a controller that selectively provides a supply mode for supplying the liquid to said basin from said tank and a recovery mode for recovering the liquid from said basin to said tank,  
said supply mode actuating said pump while keeping said air valve closed so as to feed the air introduced through said air vent into said tank by way of said fluid intake channel and accumulate the air pressure within said tank, thereby forcing the liquid out of said tank to said basin,  
said recovery mode actuating said pump while keeping said air valve opened to feed the liquid out from said basin through said fluid intake channel to said tank without accumulating the air pressure within said tank, thereby collecting the liquid into the tank.

4. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein  
said drip pan is removably received within a recess formed in said housing below  
said basin.

5. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein  
said drip pan is separated by said filter into a first chamber which is in direct  
communication with said basin and a second chamber having a connection port  
for direct connection with said fluid intake channel,  
said filter having an upper area and a lower area, said upper area being  
configured to be positioned above a level of the liquid dripped and stored into  
said drip pan for introducing the air through said upper area into said second  
chamber,  
said tank being in the form of a hermetically sealed container which is selectively  
open to the atmosphere by way of an air valve,  
said device including a controller that selectively provides a supply mode for  
supplying the liquid to said basin from said tank and a recovery mode for  
recovering the liquid from said basin to said tank,  
said supply mode actuating said pump while keeping said air valve closed so as  
to feed the air introduced through said upper area of said filter into said tank by  
way of said fluid intake channel and accumulate the air pressure within said tank,  
thereby forcing the liquid out of said tank to said basin,  
said recovery mode actuating said pump while keeping said air valve opened to  
feed the liquid out from said basin through said fluid intake channel to said tank  
without accumulating the air pressure within said reservoir, thereby collecting the

liquid into the tank.

6. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said drip pan is separated by said filter into a first chamber which is in direct communication with said basin and a second chamber having a connection port for direct connection with said fluid intake channel, said second chamber having an inner bottom which is inclined downwardly to said connection port.

7. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said drip pan is configured to have a liquid storing capacity larger than that of said basin.

8. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 4, further including a monitor that monitors whether or not said drip pan is attached to said housing, said controller deactivating said pump in response to said drip pan being detached from said housing.

9. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said filter is removable from said housing.

10. The cleaning device as set forth in claim 9, further including said housing includes a controller that activates said pump and a monitor that monitors whether or not said filter is attached to said housing, said controller deactivating said pump in response to said filter being detached from said housing.